(b) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Information is being collected from the State Governments and other concerned departments.

(b) From August 1990 a More Secured Passport (MSP) has been introduced in India. The MSP is being progressively introduced in Missions/Posts abroad.

[*English*]

Use of Water Resources

570. SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.:

(a) the total quantum of economically utilisable water available in the country:

(b) the quantum of water already used so far; and

(c) the amount required to use the remaining quantum of economically utilisable water?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The total utilisable quantity of water in the country both from surface and ground water is about 1140 billion cubic metre of which about 552 billion cubic metre is being presently utilised.

(c) The amount required for the development of economically utilisable waters for the different uses together has not been estimated.

New Schemes for Development of Agriculture in Kerala

571. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch new schemes for the development of agriculture in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are proposed to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c): New Schemes for development of arecanut and cocoa, development of fertiliser use in low consumption rainfed areas, development of offshore pelagic fishing, procurement of marine patrol boats for enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act, Strengthening of Inland fish marketing infrastructure by State level organisations, Introduction of Ply crafts, etc. are proposed to be taken up in Kerala during 1991-92.

Policy of Land Use

572. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the coastal eco-system are being threatened due to influx of human population along coastal area;

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to save the coastal eco-system;

(c) whether the Government propose to mark areas for conservation and intensification of agriculture;

(d) whether Government are considering a policy on land use; and

(e) if so, the salient feature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): In terms of notification dated 20-2-1991 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, under Environmental Protection Act 1986 and rules thereunder, activities in the Coastal Regulation Zone are regulated by imposing restrictions on industries, operations and processes. The Ministry of Ocean Development is regularly monitoring the chemistry of coastal waters and

the various Pollution Control, Boards are appraised of the pollutants, as and when they are found to exceed the standard/safe limits.

(d) and (e) National Land Use Policy Outline was approved by National Land Use and Wastelands Development Council under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 6th February, 1986. The details of the policy are given in the statement below:

STATEMENT

National Land use Policy outline

1. Land Use Boards at the Statelevel should be revitalised. Wherever they do not exist, they must be created.

2. Land Use Policy must be evolved by all users of land within Government jointly and must be enforced on the basis of both legislation for enforcing land use as well as their promotional and preserving methods.

3. Urban Policy must be restructured so as to ensure that highly productive land is not taken away. Town planning should also provide for green belts.

4. A national campaign should be launched for educating the farmers and Government Departments about the need to conform to an integrated land use policy.

5. Cropping pattern should be reviewed specially in drought prone desert areas, so that maximum advantage is taken of improved soil and water management practices.

6. Land and soil surveys should be completed and inventory of land resources should be prepared in each State so that resources allocation is based on a reliable data base.

7. Heavy penalties should be imposed against those who interfere with land resources and its productivity. It must be recognised that environmental protection cannot succeed unless this is done.

8. The problems of water logging,salinity and alkalinity must be brought under control by the use of appropriate technologies and by the adoption of proper water management practices.

9. The management of Command Areas should be reviewed, restructured and revitalised within a specified time limit so that water is used efficiently. Necessary investment for treating the catchments must be met to prevent the collapse of irrigation system due to premature siltation.

10. Technologies relating to dry farming, land shaping and water harvesting must be propogated and adopted in the interest of moisture conservation and optimal use.

11. Special programmes of conservation and afforestation in the desert areas and of reclamation and rehabilitation in the ravine areas must be launched with greater vigour in order to prevent wind and water erosion.

12. The practice of shifting cultivation should be controlled in order to protect valuable forests.

13. Land use planning should be integrated with rural employment programmes in such a manner that loans and subsidies are given only for those productive activities which represent efficient land use.

14. Rights of tribals and poorer sections on common land should be protected through legal and administrative structures.

15. Stall feeding should be popularised, especially in such areas where grazing land is already degraded.

16. Special Fodder Development Programme in selective blocks should

be launched together with a livestock Development Programme. The aim should be to limit the livestock population to economically productive stock.

17. Plantations for meeting commercial and industrial needs should preferably be located far away from the habitat.

18. The policy of supplying forest raw materials on subsidised basis to users other than the rural poor should be reviewed so that raw material is supplied at the prevailing market price, with a view to induce such users to go in for massive afforestation programmes, as also to motivate small and marginal farmers to grow forest based raw material for industry at remunerative prices.

19. The use of alternative packaging material, such as corrugated card boards, plastic bags etc. instead of wooden packaging, must be explored and encouraged.

[*Translation*]

Agriculture University Status to Raja Balwant Singh College Agra

573. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert Raja Balwant Singh College Bichpuri, Agra into a national level Agriculture University; and

(b) if so, when and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Already there are three agricultural universities in Uttar Pradesh. Setting up of another agricultural university does not appear to be necessary from the point of view of manpower requirements.

[*English*]

Freedom Fighters in the Country

574. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters in the country till date and the amount being spent on them annually;

(b) whether existence of bogus freedom fighters have come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government;

(d) whether any high power committee has been constituted to probe into the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) Freedom Fighters' pension has been sanctioned to 1,59,101 persons till 30-6-1991. Actual expenditure incurred during 1989-90 was Rs. 127,93,89,132 (Rupees One hundred twentyseven crores, ninty three lakhs, eighty nine thousand, one hundred and thirtytwo only). This includes the expenditure incurred on free Railway Passes to the freedom fighters and in running Freedom Fighters' Home.

(b) and (c) Some cases of non genuine persons applying for freedom fighters' pension on the basis of fabricated documents have come to the notice of the Government. Such cases are got investigated through the State Governments and Central agencies. If the applicant is not found genuine and eligible for pension under the Freedom Fighters' Pension Scheme, the pension is cancelled.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Population of Nepali Speaking Indians

575. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the population of the Nepali-speaking Indian people according to 1991 Census State-wise and Union Territory-wise?